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A NEW FROG AND A NEW SNAKE FROM PANAMA.

BY THOMAS BARBOUR.

AMONG collections of reptiles and amphibians, made at the Barro Colorado Island Laboratory in Gatun Lake by Messrs. W. S. Brooks, E. Wigglesworth and the writer, are five specimens of a new frog related to a comparatively little-known species, *Rana warschewitschii* (Schmidt), from Costa Rica and extreme western Panama. The celebrated Polish explorer, von Warszewicz, discovered the types near Chiriqui Volcano, in a moist foggy region about 6000 or 7000 feet above sea level. Apparently only the type, probably still in Cracow, was taken and was amply described and reasonably well figured by Schmidt (Denkschr. K. Akad. Wiss. Wien, vol. 14, p. 241, pl. 1, fig. 1-4, 1858). The species was later described as *Rana caeruleopunctata* by Steindachner and was fully discussed by Boulenger in his American Frogs of the Genus *Rana* (Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sci., vol. 55, p. 478, 1920). This frog has a wider range than Boulenger supposed. The type came from the Volcán de Chiriquí; Dr. E. R. Dunn and Mr. Chester B. Duryea collected a beautiful series at Suretka in the Talamanca Valley, Costa Rica, near the Panamanian border on the Atlantic coastal plain. In 1920, Dr. Dunn found it sparingly at Navarro in Costa Rica, altitude about 4000 feet. Boulenger had records for Nicaragua based upon Cope's and Noble's writings, which he cites, and from Bebedero, San Carlos and La Palma in Costa Rica. In discussing *Rana caeruleopunctata*, Boulenger remarks that while the British Museum had received large collections from Costa Rica it had never received *Rana palmipes* from that country. The reason for this was that these collections were made in the highlands while *Rana palmipes* is a species characteristic of the coastal plain. The Museum of Comparative Zoölogy has specimens from along the Caribbean littoral from Mexico to British Guiana and along the Pacific from eastern Panama and from the interior of Colombia, Brazil and Peru. There are examples from Zent, Guapiles, Monteverde and Suretka, Costa Rica, mostly taken by Dr. Dunn during his fruitful explorations.

The new frog is named in honor of Mr. James Zetek, the diligent resident custodian of the Barro Colorado Island Laboratory of the Institute for Research in Tropical America.

Rana zeteki, sp. nov.

Type.—No. 10031, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, from Barro Colorado Island, Gatun Lake, Canal Zone of Panama. March, 1924. Four paratypes.

Diagnosis.—A *Rana* closely related to *Rana warschewitschii* (Schmidt) = *Rana caeruleopunctata* (auct.) and differing conspicuously in having a wholly black throat, chest and upper belly instead of an ashy-gray venter; dark, not pink, anterior aspects of the thighs; inconspicuously instead of heavily cross-barred tibia; the white stripe on the upper lip extending to beneath the eye instead of to the tip of the snout; the dorsum much less coarsely granular; the feet and webs largely black instead of largely coral pink; a distinctly shorter hind leg and more massive thigh.

It is hoped that future collecting in Panama may make it possible to say whether this species gradually approaches *Rana warschewitschii* in the unexplored regions of Panama in Veraguas and the western part of the provinces of Colon and eastern Bocas del Toro. The new type may be a subspecies of the older form but it may equally well be wholly distinct. It is hoped that this and other species may be discussed in a future account of the herpetology of this extraordinary biological reserve.

This February (1925) while at Barro Colorado Island, an Indian boy engaged in digging out a stump near the laboratory building came upon a small snake. At the time I thought it was a *Leptocalamus sclateri* Boulenger, so white was its head, but later upon examining it carefully it appears to be a very peculiar species of *Tantilla*, apparently with no very near allies. It may be called

Tantilla albiceps, sp. nov.

Type.—No. 20600, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, from Barro Colorado Island, Gatun Lake, Canal Zone of Panama. Barbour collection.

Diagnosis.—A small very slender *Tantilla* with head and nape almost wholly white and with a very high count of ventrals and subcaudals.

Description.—Head long, flat, depressed, with a snout slightly projecting, blunt, almost square, in outline; rostral much broader than high, extending on to top of head for a distance nearly equal to internasal suture; internasal suture a little shorter than the prefrontal suture; frontal broad, roughly hexagonal, about one-third longer than broad; its length greater than the distance from the tip of the snout; nostril between two nasals, posterior nasal barely in contact with the single preocular; one postocular about the size of the eye or a little larger; temporals 1 + 1, the anterior the larger; 7 supralabials, 3d and 4th entering the eye; 6 lower labials, the first pair separated by the mental; two pairs of anterior chin shields, about equal in size; scales in fifteen rows, without apical pits; ventrals 185; anal divided; subcaudals 62 and the extreme tip of the tail may be missing. Length of body 164 mm., tail 48 mm.

Color as in life.—Head, nape, belly, under surface and tip of tail ivory white, a faint dusky spot surrounding each eye and extending across the head as two faint lines on each side of the fronto-prefrontal suture; dorsal surfaces slaty olive; on the lower scale-rows the dark color shows as innumerable dots with the white appearing between; a cluster of dark dots on the outer end of each ventral.